

# Inside Region 3

An information product from the Accomplishment Reporting System

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External Affairs Office

August 15, 2000

## Canadian Outfitter Convicted, Indiana Hunter Fined, Loses Trophy

A cooperative investigation involving Service special agents and Canadian law enforcement officers resulted in a recent conviction of a Canadian outfitter for violations of international wildlife protection laws. Robert Allen Wayne Kaartinen of Winnipeg, Manitoba, was fined \$6,000 plus court costs June 26 in a Canadian court for violations of the Wild Animal and Plant Protection and Regulation of International and Interprovincial Trade Act (WAPPRIITA) and the Manitoba Wildlife Act (MWA).

Kaartinen, a big game outfitter in Winnipeg, pled guilty to one count of transporting parts from an illegally taken black bear from one province to another, one count of obstructing wildlife officers while in the execution of their duties, and one count of failing to provide required guiding services to his clients.

The conviction is the result of a Service investigation into allegations that four Indiana hunters had been taken by a Guide into Northwestern Ontario to illegally hunt black bear during spring 1998.

Investigators learned that Kaartinen had dropped off his clients at a remote lake in Eastern Manitoba. After hunting

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## Schedule for Public Meetings Announced Public Invited to Comment on Service Proposal to Reclassify the Gray Wolf in the Great Lakes Region

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has scheduled a series of public information meetings to provide information on a proposal to reclassify most gray wolves in the Great Lakes area from "endangered" status under the Endangered Species Act to the less protective "threatened" status.

Public hearings, designed to capture comments and information relevant to the Service's proposal, have also been scheduled.

These public information meetings and hearings follow a national announcement made on July 11, 2000, which addressed the reclassification and delisting of gray wolves across the lower 48 states. Under the proposal, wolves in Michigan, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin would be reclassified from endangered to threatened, joining Minnesota wolves in that status. Additionally, Endangered Species Act protection would be removed from any wolves in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri and Ohio entirely.



Gray Wolf.

Photo by Scott Flaherty

The information meetings are designed to explain the details of the Service's proposal and discuss its potential impact in the Great Lakes region. Service staff will also answer questions and accept comments people might have about the proposal. Formal comments may also be sent to the Service via the

Service's gray wolf web site at <http://midwest.fws.gov/wolf>

Comments can also be submitted by mail and by facsimile, and must be received by the Service no later than November 13, 2000. More information on submitting comments can be obtained by calling the gray wolf information number (612-713-7337) or on the web site.

All meetings will use an open house format, including a slide presentation beginning every half hour. Service endangered species program staff will be available to answer questions and discuss the proposal. The Service will hold public information meetings at several locations in the Midwest. The schedule of meeting dates, locations and times are on page 2.

## Gray Wolf Hearings and Public Meeting Schedule

### Public Information Meetings

#### Minnesota

**St. Paul**, Aug. 7, 4:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Upper Lobby of the Earl Brown Center, 1890 Buford Avenue, on the University of Minnesota St. Paul Campus.

**Grand Rapids**, Aug. 8, 4:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Sawmill Inn, 2301 S. Pokegama (State Route 169).

#### Wisconsin

**Black River Falls**, Aug. 15, 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Lunda Theater in the Black River Falls Middle School (behind Black River Falls High School), 1202 Pierce Street.

**Madison**, Aug. 16, 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Mitby Auditorium in the Madison Area Technical College (near Madison Airport), 3550 Anderson Street.

**Ashland**, Aug. 17, 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Northern Great Lakes Center, 29270 County Highway G (three miles west of Ashland).

#### Michigan

**Watersmeet**, Aug. 28, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Ottawa National Forest Visitor Center, U.S. 2 and Hwy. 45.

**Escanaba**, Aug. 29, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Bay de Noc Community College, 2001 N. Lincoln Road.

**Sault Ste. Marie**, Aug. 30, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Cisler Center, Lake Superior State University, 650 W. Easterday Avenue.

**East Lansing**, Aug. 31, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Breslin Student Center, Michigan State University, 1 Birch Road.

### Public Hearings

The Service will hold formal public hearings and accept comments on the gray wolf reclassification proposal at the following locations in the Midwest:

#### Wisconsin

**Madison**, Oct. 10, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Mitby Auditorium in the Madison Area Technical College (near Madison Airport), 3550 Anderson Street.

#### Michigan

**East Lansing**, Oct. 16, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Communication Arts and Sciences Bldg., Room 147, Michigan State University, southeast corner of Wilson Road and Red Cedar Road.

**Marquette**, Oct. 17, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Holiday Inn, 1951 U.S. Hwy. 41 west.

#### Minnesota

**Duluth**, Oct. 18, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. in Room 175 of the Life Sciences Building, Oakland Avenue, on the University of Minnesota Duluth Campus.

For more information on the gray wolf reclassification proposal, see the Service's gray wolf web site at <http://midwest.fws.gov/wolf>

*Dan Sobieck, R3-External Affairs*

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## Canadian Outfitter Convicted, Indiana Hunter Fined, Loses Trophy

for two days without success, the outfitter returned to check on the hunters and flew them into Ontario to finish the black bear hunt.

One Indiana hunter, Robert Craig Sibbitt, killed a trophy-sized black bear in Ontario without a proper hunting license. Kaartinen then transported the skull and hide into Manitoba for taxidermy purposes. When officers began interviewing suspects and witnesses, they learned Kaartinen instructed the witnesses to give false information.

The investigation involved wildlife

officers from Environment Canada, Manitoba Conservation, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Indiana and Wisconsin Departments of Natural Resources.

Three search warrants led to the seizure of a mounted 400 pound black bear and a trophy black bear skull, which would have ranked as Ontario's third largest in 1998.

In June 1999, Robert Craig Sibbitt, the Indiana hunter who killed the black bear, pled guilty in a Winnipeg Provincial Court to illegally

transporting the black bear meat from Ontario to Manitoba and then to Indiana. He was fined \$3,000. The mounted black bear was ordered forfeited to the Crown.

WAPPRIITA, enacted in 1996, is similar to the U.S. Lacey Act, and provides wildlife officers with a new enforcement tool to pursue poachers. Maximum penalties under the law are \$150,000 in fines and/or up to six months in jail for individuals, and \$300,000 and/or up to five years in jail for corporations. *Larry Harris, R3-Indianapolis LE*

# Thousands Help Region Observe National Fishing Week



**Set the hook!** A young angler gets advice from a volunteer at the Family Fishing Fair.

**2,000 Attend Fishing Fair** Co-sponsored by Mark Twain NWR-Brussels District Staff from the Mark Twain NWR-Brussels District, joined with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to co-sponsor the 9th Annual Family Fishing Fair at Pere Marquette State Park June 10. An estimated 1,000 children and 1,000 adults attended the fair.

Fair goers learned some basic fishing skills such as knot tying, casting, fish cleaning, and fish identification. Other interactive booths included a virtual fishing display, the conservation police traveling display, and seminars on fishing by professional fishermen using a "Hog Trough" stocked with local fish species. *Russell Engelke, R3-Mark Twain NWR-Brussels District*



**A Real Keeper.** A young fisherman proudly displays one of the day's biggest catches.

## Shiawassee NWR Helps Celebrate Free Fishing Day in Michigan

A record number of children joined the Shiawassee NWR, the City of Saginaw, the Saginaw News, and the Saginaw Field and Stream Club to celebrate the annual Great Saginaw River Free Fishing Fun Day June 10.

More than 1,100 people attended the event. More than 620 children, aged 3-16, caught 1,081 fish from nine species during the event, held on Ojibway Island in Saginaw.

Registered anglers also received a variety of free gifts and an opportunity to win one of 80 door prizes which included bicycles, sports equipment, and toys. Meijer's stores provided many of the door prizes, Garb-Ko 7-11 provided drink coupons, McDonald's Restaurants gave away cookies, GKC Cinemas had movie coupons, and the Sons of Italy provided free popcorn, drinks, and sno-cones from their concession stand. Forty-one volunteers helped with the event, and two television stations were present for interviews and to film of the event. *Edward De Vries, R3-Shiawassee NWR*



**Fry Cooks.** Assistant Manager Gary Heet and Biology Technician Eric Willman cook up the whitefish for the fish fry.

## Children's Fishing Contest a Hit at Seney NWR

Seventy-nine children participated in the Children's Fishing Contest at Seney NWR.

The event, held in recognition of Michigan's "Free Fishing Weekend," featured fishing stations with poles available for checkout, as well as worms and tackle. At the Refuge visitor center, youngsters fished for prizes at the tiny tots fishing hole. Michelle Zastro from the Marquette Biological Station staffed a sea lamprey display, and Faber Bland from Pendills Creek National Fish Hatchery staffed a display on fish and fishing. Bland also measured the young anglers' catch when they checked in.

Following the contest, about 200 contestants and their families attended an awards ceremony and fish fry dinner.

## 1st Annual National Fishing Day at Cypress Creek NWR

Cypress Creek NWR held its first National Fishing Day June 10, co-sponsored by Mermet Lake State Fish and Wildlife Area and The Nature Conservancy. Throughout the day over 200 youth and adults participated in the fishing derby and a variety of fishing clinics to learn new skills like baiting a hook, knot tying, and casting, or to test their knowledge of fish identification and the do's and don't of fishing.

## Regional Staffs Conduct Hearings For Piping Plover Critical Habitat

Staff members from Regional Office Endangered Species, External Affairs programs, and the staff from eight Ecological Services Field Offices in Regions 3 and 5 recently conducted seven public hearings on the proposal to designate critical habitat for the Great Lakes population of the piping plover.

The hearings were held in Ashland, Wisc., July 17; Green Bay, Wisc., July 18; Newberry, Mich., July 19; Traverse City, Mich., July 20; Indiana Dunes, Ind., July 24; Cleveland, Ohio July 25; and Watertown, New



-NPS photo

**Piping plover:**  
York July 27.

An informal informational session was held prior to each hearing. Although the attendance at the hearings was low (ranging between 5 and 38 people) Service

representatives were able to discuss the proposal with important leaders and members of stakeholder groups, as well as with concerned private landowners.

More than 100 people were contacted during the meetings. The contacts allowed the Service to explain what critical habitat is and how it might affect other federal agencies, states, tribes, and private landowners.

All oral and written comments submitted at the hearings will be recorded and used in the decision-making process. *Laura Ragan, R3-External Affairs*

## Broodstock Injections Decrease BKD in Fish at the Iron River NFH

Staff from Ashland Fishery Resources Office (FRO) recently assisted Iron River National Fish Hatchery in its effort to reduce bacterial kidney disease (BKD) from hatchery fish stocks. The assistance was provided at the request of Dale Bast, Iron River NFH project leader.

Although fish mortality for lake trout and brook trout broodstock being held at the hatchery have been within normal limits, the presence of BKD jeopardizes the long term health of the fish and severely limits the management options for transferring eggs to other hatchery facilities.

Frank Stone, of Ashland FRO, will assist in this broodstock injection program during July and August. The procedure involves injecting each fish with an antibiotic (Galamycin). Thirty days after the initial injection, a second shot is administered.

*Frank Stone, R3-Ashland FRO*

## Friends Group Completes Oak Savanna Environmental Education Curriculum

The Friends of Sherburne NWR recently completed a 120-page environmental education curriculum that will help educators teach children about oak savanna, a globally-endangered habitat that is being restored at Sherburne NWR in central Minnesota.

“Exploring the Oak Savanna at Sherburne NWR” consists of 18 lesson plans designed for three age levels--elementary middle and high school--that provide guidance for hands-on activities to help students explore understand and appreciate the oak savanna. The curriculum, completed June 30, 2000, was funded through a Refuge Support Group Grant received from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Wildlife Refuge Association and the National Audubon Society.

The curriculum activities were written by four local teachers--two funded through the grant and two who donated their services. The grant also allowed for equipment to be purchased to support the activities and for 100 copies of the curriculum to be made.

The \$3,000 grant was matched by the Friends of Sherburne through \$3,000 in labor donated by 10 members of the Friends of Sherburne NWR, \$500 donated by the Elk River Lions Club and \$500 donated by the Minnesota Bowhunters - Three Rivers Chapter.

The Friends of Sherburne believe that this curriculum guide is one of the best ways to help the Refuge meet its goal of providing the public with wildlife-oriented opportunities for outdoor classrooms. *Nancy Haugen, R3-Sherburne NWR*

# Four Years of Beetle Releases Results in Greater Plant Control

**An estimated 350,000 beetles have been released on the Shiawassee NWR over the last four years.**

National Wildlife Refuges in Region 3 are winning the battle against nuisance plants thanks to the efforts of Shiawassee NWR. The Michigan refuge initiated a program in 1996 to rear *Galerucella* beetles to biologically control purple loosestrife plants. From a meager supply of 47 beetles, the Refuge has produced nearly 400,000 *Galerucella* beetles by the close of the program in July.

Over the past five years, the beetles, which eat only purple loosestrife plants, have been released on Shiawassee NWR and have been distributed to other national wildlife refuges. In 1998, 4,500 beetles were shipped to the LaCrosse District of the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge. Over 41,000 beetles were released on Ottawa NWR. In 1998, approximately 1,700 beetles were released on Thunder Bay Island, part of the Michigan Islands NWR.

An estimated 350,000 beetles have been released on the Shiawassee NWR over the last four years. These beetles were released in purple loosestrife stands on five different sites that are monitored annually. Sites which received the beetles during earlier releases are showing encouraging results this year, with greatly reduced plant numbers and reduced plant vigor. It appears to take



-USFWS photo by Ed DeVries

**Beetle Pen.** Nearly 400,000 *Galerucella* beetles were raised in these rearing pens at Shiawassee NWR.

**“To find literally thousands of these insects munching on purple loosestrife in non-monitored areas of Shiawassee NWR is encouraging.”**

about two years for a *Galerucella* population to become established to the point where definite results can be seen by the casual observer.

The exciting part of this program is to discover newly established populations of these beetles in areas where they weren't released. To find literally thousands of these insects munching on purple loosestrife in non-monitored areas of Shiawassee NWR is encouraging. Within a few years this invasive wetland plant may be entirely controlled on the Ref-



-USFWS photo by Ed DeVries

**Beetle Net.** Maturing beetles are reared in net enclosures, which making them easier to manage and transport. They are released naturally, by means of the beneficial biological control efforts of the *Galerucella* beetles. Edward De Vries, R3-Shiawassee NWR

## Region's Accomplishment Reporting System Captures Value of Service Partnerships

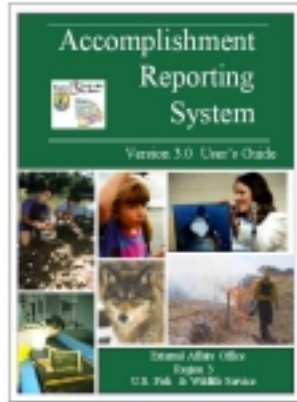
Since August 1999, the Accomplishment Reporting System (ARS) has been collecting and disseminating a wealth of information about resource and outreach activities in Region 3.

Since the new, upgraded version 3.0 was fielded August 30, 1999, more than 1,100

reports have been filed from field locations and Regional Office staff. Approximately 300 users registered with the ARS during the period.

An informal sampling of reports filed over the past 12 months show the Region is successfully engaged with numerous partners in government, non-government organizations and private industry. Field offices have documented accomplishments involving more than 425 partners. Included in this total are 20 international agencies, 25 federal agencies, 21 tribal agencies, 151 state agencies, 133 non-governmental organizations and 74 private businesses.

During the same period, more than



\$47 million was reported to have been spent on resource and conservation projects, outreach events, activities and other accomplishments. The Service (Region 3) contribution to this total was less than \$3.6 million.

The figures indicate the Region is truly committed to working with others to accomplish its natural resource goals in the Midwest.

A wealth of information about accomplishments and activities in Region 3 programs and ecosystems is available to employees by using the Report Manager function of the ARS. Report Manager, (found on the ARS navigation menu) allows users to perform key-word searches of regional accomplishments by author, office, program or ecosystem. Contact Scott Flaherty in External Affairs ([scott\\_flaherty@fws.gov](mailto:scott_flaherty@fws.gov)) for information on how to search the ARS database.

*Scott Flaherty, R3-External Affairs*

## Agencies Learn About 30 Years of Prairie Establishment at Detroit Lakes WMD

Biologists Larry Hanson and John Gunderson attended and led part of the August 3 meeting of the Vegetation Management Association of Minnesota in New Ulm, Minn.

Hanson explained the differences between wildlife habitat (grasses and forbs) and Gunderson explained how ecological principles are used in developing

native prairie establishment seeding plans.

About 130 professionals responsible for their agencies' vegetative management attended the meetings. Resource agencies included the Minnesota Departments of Transportation, Natural Resources, and Agriculture. *Les Peterson, R3-Detroit Lakes WMD*

## External Affairs Intranet Site Provides Useful Links, Regional Director's Orders and Printing Guidance

The Region 3 External Affairs Office has developed an Intranet site for use by all Service employees that provides useful information about the External Affairs Office and how its professional staff can help regional employees.

The Intranet site (accessible to employees only) hosts a wide variety of easily accessible and useful information, including Regional Director's Orders, Regional Briefing Papers, Congressional Affairs links, and information on developing and printing official Service outreach publications.

The site's address is:

**<http://r3ftp.fws.gov/aba/ea>**  
*Chuck Traxler, R3-External Affairs*

## Search for Non-Game Bird Nests Complete at Squaw Creek NWR

The search for non-game bird nests at Squaw Creek NWR in northwest Missouri was completed July 10. A total of 224 nests were located which included 98 least bittern, 122 pied-billed grebe and four common moorhen.

This year's total is slightly less than the past five year average of 234 nests. The difference is probably related to the drought-like conditions that persisted in the area until mid-June.

Since 1991, a total of 1,431 nests have been located which includes 854 least bittern, 520 pied-billed grebe and 57 common moorhen. *Ron Bell, R3-Squaw Creek NWR*

# Upper Mississippi Refuges Benefit from Young Women Volunteers

Two National Wildlife Refuges on the Upper Mississippi River were the recipients of more than 300 hours of unexpected volunteer work as the result of a Young Women's Encampment August 3 in Winona, Minn.

More than 900 young women attended the encampment, sponsored by the LDS church. A segment of the encampment involved four-hour community service projects.

Many local non-profit organizations and area Refuges received several hours of volunteer labor. At Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge, the women painted storage sheds and washed vehicles with Lisa McCurdy, refuge operations specialist. The Upper Mis-



-USFWS photo by Brian Stemper

*Brian Pember of the Upper Mississippi River NW&FR teaches women volunteers how to mulch.*

issippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge received three days of volunteer services. Volunteers collected black-eyed

susan seed heads and mulched trees. Each session began with an environmental education experience.

District Manager Bob Drieslein discussed how the Wabasha Prairie became a prairie from dredge disposal and how to identify specific prairie plants. An adult leader, Luann Culand commented, This was such a wonderful experience for us because it included education. You taught us to value the prairie."

The last group of volunteers worked with Biology Technicians Brian Stemper and Brian Pember and learned how to mulch trees.

*Cynthia Samples, R3-UMRNW&FR-Complex HQ*

## Service Joins Michigan DEQ to Host Public Meeting on Kalamazoo River NRDA

Lisa Williams of the East Lansing Field Office and Anne Pulley of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality facilitated a public meeting on the Kalamazoo River Environment Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) in Plainwell, Mich., July 19, 2000.

They described the NRDA process in general, compared it to the ongoing Superfund cleanup process, and described the status of the NRDA process for the Kalamazoo River Environment, including an overview of the recently released Preassessment Screen for the site.

Approximately 50 people attended, including several local television and radio reporters.

Attendees had a variety of questions and many continued discussions following the public meeting. Partners include: Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. *Lisa Williams, R3-East Lansing FO*



-USFWS photo by Cindy Samples

**New Whaler.** *Refuge Officer Dave Lescalleet prepares to unwrap his new Boston Whaler patrol boat at Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge.*

## Upper Mississippi River Refuge Gets New Patrol Boat

Refuge Officer Dave Lescalleet experienced a Christmas of sorts August 4, when a new Boston Whaler patrol boat was delivered to the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge. The refuge is primarily a roadless refuge with over 260 river

miles to patrol. The new Boston Whaler will help Refuge Officer Lescalleet make contact with visitors to the refuge. Last year Lescalleet estimated he made about 10,000 visitor contacts. *Cynthia Samples, R3-UMRNW&FR-Complex HQ*

## Accomplishment Reports Received

The following Accomplishment Reports were processed by the ARS Aug. 11. Reports received after that date will be listed in the next issue of Inside Region 3.

1. **New Biologist Added to Squaw Creek NWR**  
*Ron Bell, R3-Squaw Creek NWR*
2. **SCEP Student Goes to Work at Squaw Creek NWR**  
*Ron Bell, R3-Squaw Creek NWR*
3. **Search for Non-game Bird Nests Complete at Squaw Creek NWR**  
*Ron Bell, R3-Squaw Creek NWR*
4. **Waterfowl Season Primer Breakfast Held in Regional Office**  
*Dan Sobieck, R3-External Affairs*
5. **Monarch Butterfly Migration at DeSoto NWR**  
*Cindy Myer, R3-Desoto NWR*
6. **STEP Student from Detroit Lakes WMD Help with Duck Banding at Tamarac NWR**  
*Les Peterson, R3-Detroit Lakes WMD*
7. **Upper Mississippi River Refuge Gets New Patrol Boat**  
*Cynthia Samples, R3-UMRNW&FR-Complex HQ*
8. **Agencies Learn About Thirty Years of Prairie Establishment at Detroit Lakes WMD**  
*Les Peterson, R3-Detroit Lakes WMD*
9. **Upper Miss Refuges Benefit from Women Learning to Volunteer**  
*Cynthia Samples, R3-UMRNW&FR-Complex HQ*
10. **La Crosse District Serves as Work Site for Summer Youth**  
*Mary Stefanski, R3-UMRNW&FR-LaCrosse*
11. **External Affairs Intranet Site Provides Valuable Information**  
*Chuck Traxler, R3-External Affairs*
12. **New Information Dissemination System Increases Reach, Reduces Costs**  
*Chuck Traxler, R3-External Affairs*
13. **Horicon Fish Survey Completed**  
*Scott Yess, R3-LaCrosse FRO*
14. **Four Years of Beetle Releases Results in Greater Plant Control**  
*Edward De Vries, R3-Shiawassee NWR*
15. **Prairie Wetlands Learning Center Mosquito Run Attracts More Than Mosquitos**  
*Kenneth Garrahan, R3-Fergus Falls WMD/PWLC*
16. **Region's Online Communications on Par With Private Industry**  
*Scott Flaherty, R3-External Affairs*
17. **Piping Plover Critical Habitat Public Hearings are Conducted in the Great Lakes Region**  
*Laura Ragan, R3-External Affairs*
18. **Service Divers Assist MacAlaster College St. Croix Mussel Project**  
*Scott Yess, R3-LaCrosse FRO*
19. **Broodstock Injections Decrease BKD in Fish at the Iron River NFH**  
*Frank Stone, R3-Ashland FRO*
20. **Detroit Lakes WMD Helps Lake Agassiz NWR with Wetland Restorations**  
*Les Peterson, R3-Detroit Lakes WMD*
21. **Wisconsin Man Charged With Violations of Eagle Laws**  
*Jackson Gregory, R3-Madison LE*
22. **LaCrosse FRO Conducts Monthly Sampling as Part of Dredge Placement Study**  
*Scott Yess, R3-LaCrosse FRO*
23. **Year's Worth of Reporting Captures Region's Accomplishments**  
*Scott Flaherty, R3-External Affairs*
24. **Public Meeting on Kalamazoo River NRDA**  
*Lisa Williams, R3-East Lansing FO*
25. **Public Meeting on Kalamazoo NRDA to be held in July**  
*Lisa Williams, R3-East Lansing FO*
26. **DeSoto Safety Program**  
*Cindy Myer, R3-Desoto NWR*
27. **Outreach at La Crosse FRO**  
*Scott Yess, R3-LaCrosse FRO*
28. **Minnesota Town Celebrates Hometown Duck Stamp Artist**  
*Judith Miller, R3-Minnesota Valley NWR*
29. **NE Press Association Members Tour DeSoto Refuge**  
*Cindy Myer, R3-Desoto NWR*
30. **Watershed Biologist Host a Citizen Collaborative for Watershed Sustainability**  
*Cynthia Samples, R3-UMRNW&FR-Complex HQ*
31. **Monitoring Upper Halfway Creek Marsh (UMRNW&FR) Habitat Quality**  
*Lara Hill, R3-UMRNW&FR-LaCrosse*
32. **Fishery Survey completed at Trempealeau NWR**  
*Scott Yess, R3-LaCrosse FRO*
33. **Service Announces Schedule for Gray Wolf Public Meetings**  
*Scott Flaherty, R3-External Affairs*
34. **Tour of Boyer Chute Held**  
*Cindy Myer, R3-Desoto NWR*
35. **Loess Hills Hospitality Association**  
*Cindy Myer, R3-Desoto NWR*



**36. Region 3 Launches National Gray Wolf Announcement**

*Dan Sobieck, R3-External Affairs*

**37. Federal Aid Staff Helps Educate Product Specialists at Cabela's**

*Julie Morin, R3-Federal Aid*

**38. Children's Fishing Contest a Hit at Seney NWR**

*Marianne Kronk, R3-Seney NWR*

**39. External Affairs Provides Outreach, Event Support to Big Oaks NWR**

*Scott Flaherty, R3-External Affairs*

**40. Refuge Site of Leafy Spurge Beetle General Trends Study**

*Cynthia Samples, R3-UMRNW&FR-Complex HQ*

# Inside Region 3



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